HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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HAER No. CA-207

Central Pacific Transcontinental Railroad, Tunnel 1 Southern Pacific Donner Pass Route Tunnels Milepost 164.34 Blue Cañon vicinity Placer County Califomia

For written information regarding Tunnel 1, please refer to Central Pacific Transcontinental Railroad (HAER No. CA-196). Note also that all references to tunnel portals are given in Southern Pacific Railroad terminology. Headquartered in San Francisco, the SP considered all trains heading *away* from San Francisco to be eastbound, all trains heading *toward* San Francisco to be westbound, regardless of actual cardinal direction. Thus a train heading north from Los Angeles to Portland would be westbound until it passed San Francisco, at which time it would become eastbound. Similarly, the railroad referred to all tunnels and other structures along its lines in the same fashion, with tunnels always having west and east portals. Direction of view in the captions will indicate cardinal direction.

Documentation: 4 photographs (1997)

Ed Andersen, Photographer John Snyder, Field Director

PHOTOGRAPHS

- CA-207-1 West portal of Tunnel 1, contextual view to north, 135mm lens. The Central Pacific originally built Tunnel 1 in 1868; Southern Pacific widened it in 1913 to accommodate both the original and new mainline as it continued its double-tracking efforts east from Colfax to Blue Cañon.
- CA-207-2 West portal of Tunnel 1, view to northeast, 135mm lens. Like the new tunnels built during this period, Tunnel 1 received a new concrete portal face with granite masonry voussoirs and coping.
- CA-207-3 East portal of Tunnel 1, contextual view to southwest, 135mm lens.
- CA-207-4 East portal of Tunnel 1, view to southwest, 135mm lens with electronic flash fill.